

In the claims:

Please cancel claim 6.

Please amend claims as follows (for the convenience of the Examiner, all claims, whether or not amended, are presented below):

a1 1. **(Amended)** A method of inducing an antiviral response in an individual suffering from viral-induced systemic shock and/or pulmonary distress, comprising administering to the individual an effective amount of a composition comprising a lymphotoxin-beta (LT-beta) blocking agent or a lymphotoxin-beta receptor (LT-beta-R) blocking agent, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such that an antiviral response is induced.

3. **(Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein said LT-beta blocking agent is an anti-LT-beta-R antibody which binds LT-beta-R or soluble LT-beta-R.

g2 4. **(Amended)** The method of claim 3 wherein said agent is a LT-beta-R/immunoglobulin fusion (Ig fusion) protein.

5. **(Amended)** The method of claim 1 wherein said LT-beta blocking agent is a soluble lymphotoxin-beta or an antibody against lymphotoxin-beta.

7. **(Amended)** The method of claims 1-5 wherein said individual is infected with Sin Nombre Virus, Ebola virus, Marburg virus, Lassa virus or Dengue.

g3 8. **(Amended)** The method of claim 7 wherein the agent is a LT-beta-R/Ig fusion protein.

Please add the following new claims.

9. (New) A method of treating viral-induced systemic shock in an individual comprising administering to the individual an effective amount of a composition comprising a lymphotoxin-beta (LT-beta) or a lymphotoxin-beta receptor (LT-beta-R) blocking agent, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such that viral-induced systemic shock is treated.
10. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the LT-beta blocking agent is an antibody against LT-beta or a soluble LT-beta.
11. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the LT-beta-R blocking agent is an anti-LT-beta-R antibody which binds LT-beta-R or soluble LT-beta-R, or an LT-beta-R/immunoglobulin fusion (Ig fusion) protein.
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cont'd 12. (New) A method of treating viral infection in an individual suffering from viral-induced systemic shock and/or pulmonary distress, comprising administering to the individual an effective amount of a composition comprising a lymphotoxin-beta (LT-beta) blocking agent or a lymphotoxin-beta receptor (LT-beta-R) blocking agent and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such that treatment occurs.
13. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the LT-beta blocking agent is an antibody against LT-beta or a soluble LT-beta.
14. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the LT-beta-R blocking agent is an anti-LT-beta-R antibody which binds LT-beta-R or soluble LT-beta-R, or an LT-beta-R/immunoglobulin fusion (Ig fusion) protein.
15. (New) A method of treating viral-induced pulmonary distress in an individual comprising administering to the individual an effective amount of a composition comprising a lymphotoxin-beta (LT-beta) blocking agent or a lymphotoxin-beta-receptor (LT-beta-R)

blocking agent and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, such that viral-induced pulmonary distress is treated.

16. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the LT-beta blocking agent is an antibody against LT-beta or a soluble LT-beta.

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17. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the LT-beta-R blocking agent is an anti-LT-beta-R antibody which binds LT-beta-R or soluble LT-beta-R, or an LT-beta-R/immunoglobulin fusion (Ig fusion) protein.

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 were pending in the application. Claim 6 was withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. Claim 2 was cancelled in view of the amendment to claim 1. New claims 10-17 have been added. Thus, claims 1, 3-5 and 7-17 are now pending.

Claims 1, 3-5, and 7-8 have been amended to correct for dependencies and informalities. Additional support for the amendment to claim can be found in the specification at least at page 10, lines 14-16 and at page 19, lines 7-8 of the specification. Support for new claims 9, 12 and 15 can be found in the claims as originally filed and throughout the specification at least at page 10, lines 14-16 and at page 19, lines 7-8. Support for new claims 10, 13 and 16 can be found throughout the specification, at least at page 4, line 28 to page 5, line 3. Support for new claims 11, 14 and 17 can be found throughout the specification, at least at page 5, lines 4-9. No new matter has been added. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendments.

Amendments to the claims should in no way be construed as an acquiescence to any of the Examiner's rejections and was done solely to expedite the prosecution of the application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the claims as originally filed in this or a separate application(s).